

**TOWN OF STAMFORD**  
**SELECTBOARD POTENTIALLY-VISCIOS DOG HEARING**  
**May 6, 2021**  
**(UNAPPROVED)**

Present: Selectboard: Nancy L. Bushika, Carol Fachini, Brandon Field and Michael Denault.  
Daniel J. Potvin was not present.  
Visitors: Maris Owczarski, Melissa Dobbert and Heather Tietgens.  
Luke McKay, Dog Officer.  
Lori Shepard, Selectboard Secretary.

Nancy Bushika called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

The members of the Selectboard met on May 6, 2021 to hear testimony on the complaint of a potentially vicious dog submitted by Melissa Dobbert. Lori Shepard administered the oath to Brandon Field, the newly elected Selectboard member.

The board read the complaint and asked if Melissa Dobbert had anything to add. She said both dogs attacked her dog and she was very upset about it. She said they are pit bulls and have been loose before. One of her dogs was attacked last year so this is really the second time. Her husband contacted the state police.

Maris Owczarski apologized and accepted responsibility for the incident. She has an electric fence around her house. They had taken their dogs for a walk and had to remove their collars to leave the premises and didn't realize the collars were not back on when the dogs were let out. Maris Owczarski was home when the incident occurred. Whenever the dogs are walked, they are on a leash.

Missy Dobbert did not bring her dog to the vets because her daughter is a nurse and could treat the wound. She wants to make sure this will not happen again.

Mike Denault sympathized with both parties but acknowledged that the board has rules they must follow to protect the public and does not want another incident to occur.

MOTION by Mike Denault that when the dog owner is outside, the electric fence is sufficient. If the dogs are let out on their own, they should be on a lead, a run, in a kennel or some similar type of restraint as well as the electric fence. The dog owners shall continue to use a leash when walking the dogs off the property. SECONDED by Carol Fachini. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

A letter will be sent to the dog owner with the board's decision and Melissa Dobbert will receive a copy of the letter as well.

MOTION by Mike Denault to adjourn. SECONDED by Brandon Field. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Carol A. Fachini  
Clerk

CAF/las